



Inter-Parliamentary Union
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137th IPU Assembly

St. Petersburg, Russian Federation
14–18 October 2017



Assembly
Item 2

A/137/2-P.15
14 October 2017

Consideration of requests for the inclusion of an emergency item in the Assembly agenda

**Request for the inclusion of an emergency item
in the agenda of the 137th Assembly of the Inter-Parliamentary Union
submitted by the delegations of Morocco, Indonesia, the United Arab Emirates,
Bangladesh, Kuwait, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Sudan and Turkey**

On 14 October 2017, the President received from the delegations of Morocco, Indonesia, the United Arab Emirates, Bangladesh, Kuwait, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Sudan and Turkey a request and accompanying documents for the inclusion in the agenda of the 137th Assembly of an emergency item entitled:

"Ending the grave human crisis, persecution and violent attacks on the Rohingyas as a threat to international peace and security and ensuring their unconditional and safe return to their homeland in Myanmar".

Delegates to the 137th Assembly will find attached the text of the communication submitting the request ([Annex I](#)) and a draft resolution ([Annex II](#)) in support thereof.

The 137th Assembly will be required to take a decision on the request of the delegations of Morocco, Indonesia, the United Arab Emirates, Bangladesh, Kuwait, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Sudan and Turkey on Sunday, 15 October 2017.

Under the terms of Assembly Rule 11.1, any Member of the IPU may request the inclusion of an emergency item in the Assembly agenda. Such a request must be accompanied by a brief explanatory memorandum and a draft resolution which clearly define the scope of the subject covered by the request. The IPU Secretariat shall communicate the request and any such documents immediately to all Members.

Furthermore, Assembly Rule 11.2 stipulates that:

- (a) A request for the inclusion of an emergency item must relate to a recent major situation of international concern on which urgent action by the international community is required and on which it is appropriate for the IPU to express its opinion and mobilize a parliamentary response. Such a request must receive a two-thirds majority of the votes cast in order to be accepted;
- (b) The Assembly may place only one emergency item on its agenda. Should several requests obtain the requisite majority, the one having received the largest number of positive votes shall be accepted;
- (c) The authors of two or more requests for the inclusion of an emergency item may combine their proposals to present a joint one, provided that each of the original proposals relates to the same subject;
- (d) The subject of a proposal that has been withdrawn by its authors or rejected by the Assembly cannot be included in the draft resolution submitted on the emergency item, unless it is clearly referred to in the request and title of the subject adopted by the Assembly.

#IPU137

**COMMUNICATION ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY GENERAL
BY THE DELEGATIONS OF MOROCCO, INDONESIA, THE UNITED ARAB EMIRATES,
BANGLADESH, KUWAIT, IRAN (ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF), SUDAN AND TURKEY**

St. Petersburg, 14 October 2017

Dear Mr. Secretary General,

We have the honour to submit on behalf of the delegations of Morocco, Indonesia, the United Arab Emirates, Bangladesh, Kuwait, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Sudan and Turkey the updated and final draft resolution of a merged proposal on the Rohingya issue entitled:

"Ending the grave human crisis, persecution and violent attacks on the Rohingyas as a threat to international peace and security and ensuring their unconditional and safe return to their homeland in Myanmar".

As there is little time, we agreed in our meetings to submit a merged proposal. If there is no response or further comments from the concerned delegates, we may consider the proposal final. Accordingly, the delegation of Bangladesh will submit this merged proposal on behalf of the above-mentioned delegations.

Thank you for your kind cooperation.

Yours sincerely,

(Signed)

Md. Ali ASHRAF
Deputy Secretary
Bangladesh Parliament Secretariat

**ENDING THE GRAVE HUMAN CRISIS, PERSECUTION AND VIOLENT ATTACKS ON THE
ROHINGYAS AS A THREAT TO INTERNATIONAL PEACE AND SECURITY AND ENSURING
THEIR UNCONDITIONAL AND SAFE RETURN TO THEIR HOMELAND IN MYANMAR**

***Draft Resolution submitted by the delegations of MOROCCO, INDONESIA, THE UNITED ARAB
EMIRATES, BANGLADESH, KUWAIT, IRAN (ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF), SUDAN AND TURKEY***

The 137th Assembly of the Inter-Parliamentary Union,

- (1) *Recalling* the IPU Resolution adopted unanimously by the 117th Assembly (Geneva, 10 October 2007) on *The urgent need to immediately stop the widespread human rights violations and to restore the democratic rights of the people of Myanmar*, and the Resolution adopted unanimously by the 133rd IPU Assembly (Geneva, 21 October 2015) on *The role of the Inter-Parliamentary Union, parliaments, parliamentarians, and international and regional organizations in providing necessary protection and urgent support to those who have become refugees through war, internal conflict and social circumstances, according to the principles of international humanitarian law and international conventions*,
- (2) *Reaffirming* relevant United Nations General Assembly Resolutions, including Resolutions 70/233, 68/242, 67/233, 66/230 on the *Situation of human rights in Myanmar*,
- (3) *Taking into account* the Charter of the United Nations (1945), the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (1948), the UN Declaration on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination (1963), the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (1966) and the First Optional Protocol (1966),
- (4) *Profoundly distressed* by the continuing violence, forced displacement and serious violations of human rights experienced by ethnic Rohingyas in the Rakhine State of Myanmar,
- (5) *Recalling* UN General Assembly Resolution 64/238 which recognizes the Rohingya ethnic minority in the Northern Rakhine State of Myanmar and UN General Assembly Resolution 69/248 which urges Myanmar to grant citizenship and equal rights to the Rohingya ethnic minority,
- (6) *Particularly shocked* by the practice of "ethnic cleansing" in the Northern Rakhine State of Myanmar which is aimed at the displacement or destruction of ethnic or religious groups,
- (7) *Expressing concern* over the unprecedented exodus of the Rohingyas to Bangladesh and its humanitarian and potential security consequences for Bangladesh and the region,
- (8) *Welcoming* Bangladesh's efforts to help the forcibly displaced Rohingyas by providing temporary refuge and *appreciating* support from the United Nation agencies, countries and other international partners,
- (9) *Taking note* of the United Nations Secretary-General's comments and concern on "ethnic cleansing" which aims to annihilate the Rohingyas from their homeland,
- (10) *Also taking note* of the verdict of the Permanent Peoples' Tribunal dated 22 September 2017,
- (11) *Deeply concerned* by the placing of landmines in violation of international norms along the border to prevent the Rohingyas from returning to Myanmar,
- (12) *Welcoming* the final report and recommendations of the Advisory Commission on Rakhine State led by Kofi Annan,
- (13) *Expressing* deep sorrow for the victims of the atrocities perpetrated by the Myanmar security forces and extremist ethnic Rakhine civilian vigilantes and *also expressing* profound sympathy to the Rohingyas,

1. *Strongly condemns* all gross violations of human rights including loss of many innocent lives in the Rakhine State of Myanmar and, particularly, the abhorrent practice of "ethnic cleansing", and *calls on* the Government of Myanmar to cease these violations immediately and ensure full respect of human rights and fundamental freedoms for all, without distinction of race or religion;
2. *Supports* the United Nations Human Rights Council's decision to send an independent, accountable multinational team to investigate alleged human rights violations by the security forces in the Rakhine State;
3. *Expresses grave concern* over the recent atrocities perpetrated by security forces and their extremist civilian accomplices against the Rohingya minority, which constitute serious and blatant violations of international laws;
4. *Calls upon* the Myanmar authorities to take urgent and immediate measures to put an end to all the violence and to confront all practices that are in violation of human rights, international law and the international covenants;
5. *Also calls upon* the United Nations Security Council, Human Rights Council and all regional and governmental competent bodies to urgently interfere in order to halt the human tragedy of the Rohingya minority and to deal with this crisis as it represents a threat to international security and peace;
6. *Appreciates* the efforts of the Government of Bangladesh to provide close to one million distressed Rohingyas with, inter alia, shelter, food, sanitation, water and medical attention;
7. *Also appreciates* Indonesia's support for the military reform and process of democratization in Myanmar to reflect the democratic values of respect for the majority and protection of minorities;
8. *Further appreciates* other countries, as well as UN agencies and other international organizations that have expressed their solidarity and extended their support and assistance to the forcibly displaced Rohingyas;
9. *Invites* all IPU Member Parliaments to help in securing the basic rights of the Rohingyas, extending humanitarian support to the Rohingyas and in joining the efforts of Bangladesh and the international community towards the sustainable return of Rohingyas to their homeland in the Rakhine State of Myanmar, and to contribute to the restoration of stability and security in the Rakhine State;
10. *Regrets* that the Parliament of Myanmar has yet to take any step to stop the violence and to put an end to the tragic situation of the Rohingyas in the Rakhine State;
11. *Strongly stresses* that Myanmar should eliminate the root causes, including the denial of citizenship based on the 1982 Citizenship Act which has led to statelessness and deprivation of the rights of the Rohingya Muslims, and to continued dispossession and discrimination against them;
12. *Urges* Myanmar authorities to grant citizenship rights to the Rohingyas as well as any other legal rights including freedom of movement and access to the labour markets, education and health services;
13. *Calls on* the Government of Myanmar
 - (a) to stop the violence and the practice of ethnic cleansing in the Rakhine State immediately, unconditionally and forever,
 - (b) to ensure sustainable return of all forcibly displaced Rohingyas sheltered in Bangladesh to their homes in Myanmar within the shortest possible time,
 - (c) to implement the recommendations of Kofi Annan's Commission Report immediately, unconditionally and entirely;

14. *Urges* the international community, in particular the United Nations to seriously consider further action for addressing the ongoing crisis in Myanmar and *requests* the United Nations to send a Fact-Finding Mission to Myanmar urgently to conduct a thorough and independent investigation of alleged atrocities and gross violations of Human Rights in the Rakhine State;
15. *Recommends strongly* the creation of "Safe Zones" inside Myanmar under UN supervision to protect all civilians irrespective of religion and ethnicity;
16. *Calls for* a sustainable solution to the human rights situation in the Rakhine State through the formulation of a peace-building plan;
17. *Also calls for* inclusive assimilation programmes for Rohingya refugees in the receiving countries;
18. *Recommends* unfettered media and humanitarian access in the Northern Rakhine State;
19. *Calls upon* the Myanmar Government to take measures against the anti-Rohingya hate campaign in Myanmar as well as to stop civilian – vigilantism by extremist Rakhines in the Rakhine State;
20. *Urges* all parliaments to encourage their respective governments to intensify diplomatic pressure on Myanmar at all levels to put an end to the tragic situation in the Rakhine State of Myanmar which constitutes a grave threat to international peace and security;
21. *Decides* to establish the IPU Contact Group on Myanmar in order to follow the implementation of this resolution and to explore appropriate and practical measures to be undertaken by the global parliamentary community to address the situation of the Rohingya people and provide a peaceful and sustainable solution for the crisis;
22. *Requests* the IPU Secretary General to convey the present resolution to the IPU Member Parliaments, the UN Secretary-General and the relevant international and regional organizations;
23. *Resolves* to remain vigilant regarding further developments in Myanmar.